

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

*Amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 1-3, as follows:*

Particularly preferred are compensator stacks of type [H] as shown in table 1, wherein the ~~absolute~~ absolute retardation values of the O plate and the A plate are approximately the same.

*Amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 31-34, as follows:*

In the devices shown in Fig. 2a, b, the low tilt A plate is a film that exhibits a tilted and splayed structure. It is, however, also possible to use a low tilt A plate with a tilted, but not splayed ~~structure~~ structure, wherein the tilt angle is substantially constant throughout the film.

*Amend the paragraph at page 18, lines 14-26, as follows:*

Alternatively it is possible to use as an O plate a liquid crystal film as described in WO 96/10770, which is prepared from a polymerizable liquid crystal material with a smectic A or smectic C phase and a nematic phase at higher temperatures. The polymerizable liquid crystal material is applied in its nematic phase onto a substrate that is, e.g., covered with an alignment layer of obliquely deposited SiO, and lowering the temperature into smectic C phase of the material. This leads to an ~~increas~~ increase of the tilt angle, as the material adopts its naturally tilted smectic C structure, which is then fixed by polymerization of the liquid crystal material. The above preparation method and possible variations thereof are described in detail in WO 96/10770, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated into this application by way of reference.